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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Clerk of Courts O'Shaughnessy picks Austin-Palmer as new Chief Deputy**

Clerk of Courts Maryellen O'Shaughnessy today announced the hiring of Mary Austin-Palmer as Chief Deputy of the Clerk's office. She replaces David Migliore, who was tapped by the Board of Commissioners to head the Franklin County Job and Family Services agency. Austin-Palmer will begin on April 20<sup>th</sup>.

Mary Austin-Palmer has worked for Columbus City Government in a variety of positions. Her most current was Business Officer for the Department of Technology, where she provided direction to the managers and technical staff to ensure successful execution of departmental procedures and processes, and reported to and advised the Director of the department. She also served as Deputy Treasurer, and as Senior Legislative Analyst and Budget Officer in the office of City Council.

Ms. Austin-Palmer was the first African-American president of the Junior League of Columbus, and was recognized by the YWCA in 2007 as a *Woman of Achievement*. She helped create the Underground Railroad Learning Station at the Kelton House Museum and Gardens. She was a board member of the Columbus Cancer Clinic and a Girl Scouts trustee, and founder of the Noe-Bixby Scenic Byway Association. Austin-Palmer is currently active in Mayor Michael Coleman's *Capital Kids*, an after-school network of programs.

"I am very pleased to have Mary join our team," said Clerk of Courts Maryellen O'Shaughnessy. "She has such a broad range of knowledge, which will be beneficial to our type of organization that does so many different tasks."

"I look forward to the challenges and opportunities of this new position, and in adapting what I have learned at the City of Columbus to benefit the Clerk's operations," Ms. Austin-Palmer said.

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